

NSC review completed

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: [REDACTED]

Director, Intelligence Community Staff

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Judge Clark on 10 November 1982

1. I understand from Gil Rye that Judge Clark will inform you of a major SIG(Space) initiative in the meeting tomorrow. Judge Clark has apparently decided to have the President issue a National Security Study Directive (NSSD) that tasks the SIG(Space) agencies to perform a six-month study to develop a national space strategy. This study, to be completed by the end of May, is focused on implementing the space policy that was issued in National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) 42. The study recommendations will be considered by the SIG(Space) and referred to the President for decision and promulgation of a NSDD that would amplify NSDD 42. Gil Rye said that the drive to perform this study is to respond to concerns expressed by Congress that the space policy had no "meat" to it and to address DCI concerns about the Soviet space program. The proposed effort would incorporate the study efforts being conducted in the three SIG(Space) working groups [REDACTED]

It will also address the following items: commercialization of space activities, planetary exploration, basic technology, manned space flight, survivability and endurance of space systems, development and funding for space weapons, overall civil versus defense versus intelligence funding, and organization (reassessment of the assignment of intelligence space assets). The study proposal is solely an NSC initiative. There has been no formal coordination on this initiative. [REDACTED]

2. This study was a surprise to us and we have not had too much time to formulate views on how we should respond to this initiative. Nevertheless, our initial reaction is one of great concern and we suggest that you raise some of the following points with Judge Clark:

Keith,

As you can see, has not been signed yet. I wanted to send you an advance copy--I do not foresee any problems.

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NRO review(s) completed.

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- We recognize that the President is under political pressure from the Congress.
- We also recognize that there are severe budgetary constraints associated with the implementation of NSDD 42.
- We support the concept of some additional studies to help the President resolve these conflicting pressures. However, we are concerned about the lack of coordination on the topics to be addressed, and are fearful that we will revisit many of the very same areas that were addressed in formulating NSDD 42.
- We note that the three on-going activities are just getting started and the process of exploring these issues should be allowed to continue. The issues are complex and trying to rush them through could be counterproductive.
- Because SIG(Space) was established by NSDD 42 to oversee space policy and to forward to the President major space issues, it appears that SIG(Space) would be the appropriate forum for review of this issue before it goes to the President.
- Thus, we would recommend to Judge Clark that he issue a draft of the NSSD and request the SIG(Space) to assist him in focusing the activities that need to be looked at over the next year.

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[Redacted]
Rear Admiral, USN

Attachment

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AttachmentSIG(Space) Working Groups -- Current StatusSpace Launch Policy Working Group

The members have met three times. The direction since the first meeting has been to address FY 1984 budget items by the end of November, and study general policy issues until spring. The need for a fifth STS orbiter is being addressed as a short term action. A draft orbiter briefing will be reviewed during the week of 15 November. Presentation to the SIG(Space) is planned by the end of November. The long-term actions include:

- Policies that maintain US space transportation leadership;
- Policies that stimulate private sector investment in space transportation; and
- Criteria that establish when the STS is operational and cost-effective. ☐

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Remote Sensing Working Group

The Remote Sensing Working Group has had one meeting. At the early October meeting, it was decided that the on-going Department of Commerce and DoD plans to evaluate the private sector comments and proposals on commercialization of LANDSAT and METSAT currently scheduled to be completed by late November should continue. DoD/DCI representatives were asked to provide a draft Terms of Reference for the overall study on the National Security concerns relative to US civil and foreign remote sensing activities, and to develop a paper on National Security concerns in relation to the transfer of the current US LANDSAT and civil METSAT programs to the private sector. The Terms of Reference are complete and proposals for contractor assistance are to be funded by DoD. The National Security concerns paper is in draft and is under review with the Community and DoD. No additional formal Working Group meetings have been held. The next anticipated action is an IG(Space) meeting to review work status. This should be held by the third week in November. ☐

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Manned Space Station Working Group

The Working Group has met only once, 21 October, for an overview briefing by NASA. The next meeting is scheduled for 22 November. CIA will brief on Soviet manned space program. NASA will present interim reports on contractor studies to define requirements for manned space station activities. DoD will also report on contractor classified mission requirements studies it has funded. The next meeting will provide the first forum for discussion of the compatibility of civil, commercial, foreign, and national security oriented aspects of manned space station activities. ☐

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